

BILL COSBY SUPPORTS MAYOR PEREZ'S STRONG STANCE ON PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

---NEWS RELEASE---

(August 15, 2008)--- Entertainment legend Bill Cosby today called Mayor Eddie A. Perez to congratulate him on his strong stance on responsible parenting. He also thanked the Mayor for attending Cosby's community conversation on the very same topic last month at Faith Seventh Day Adventist Church.

Dr. Cosby supports the curfew and other strategic actions that the Mayor is taking to help curb violence and strengthen families. He says, "The curfew is a great idea because it puts the child in the home with the parent or caregiver. This is a time for parents and children to share their homework, read a book, and strengthen the bond of love and learning."

Mayor Perez says, "Dr. Cosby's endorsement echoes what I am hearing from families and neighborhood leaders throughout the city. We know this emergency 30-day curfew will not solve the problem, but it is intended to ensure our youngsters are in a safe environment while we implement tougher investigation and enforcement activities. This curfew may also identify youths whose families' may require additional social services. But most importantly, this sends a strong message that someone must take responsibility for the whereabouts of our kids."

Enforcement of the curfew for young people under the age of 18 went into effect at 9:00 p.m. last night and proved to be effective with only 16 being brought home. Mayor Perez and Bill Cosby thank Hartford parents for their support.